



October 19 – 20

Lesson 5

Freed to Serve

This Discussion Guide should be used the week following the sermon it supplements, but members can still interact even if they missed the sermon. To use this guide in your Community Group, try to work through the questions on your own before you meet. You might not get to all of the questions, and that's okay. If your Community Group does not meet one week, walk through the guide on your own so that you can stay in sync with the series.

MAIN TEXT: Galatians 5:13-14

SUMMARY: To continue our “One Another” series on how to be the church with one another and not just do church, we will look into how God has freed us in Christ from the power of sin and self-orientation in our life, and has freed us to serve one another through love.

Just a reminder, while the “one another” passages do encourage us to move inward in community with one another, it doesn't happen without moving upward toward God, and it always moves us outward to the lost around us!

GETTING STARTED

Watch the video together with the corresponding guide and answer the following question below:

1. “As a Christian, serving is not merely something you do, but somebody you are.” What is significant about this statement?

DISCUSSING THE WORD

1. Let's get a little context first before reading Galatians 5:13-14. First, read Galatians 3:1-3. How were the churches in Galatia moving away from the gospel? (Hint: a group in the churches were saying that you need to practice law customs and practices to be a follower of Jesus and part of His church body)
2. According to Galatians 6:14-15, what does Paul say really counts? Who is the one that brings this new creation in you?
3. Read Romans 8:2. According to these verses, what freedom does the Spirit bring now that you are new creation and have this new identity in Christ?
4. What kind of freedom do we now have according to Galatians 5:13-14?

RESPONDING TO GOD

1. Why is important to remember who we are in Christ when it comes to serving?
2. Read Mark 10:45. When you think of Jesus, how does His humility compel your heart to serve others?

OTHER THOUGHTS

Make it your prayer this week to ask God to help you walk by the Spirit in the freedom He brings to serve others. Ask Him, “How can I love You and love those around me today in a way that makes much of Jesus.”

MOVING OUTWARD WITH YOUR GROUP

Below is the Moving Outward that was shared previously. Use some time at the end to discuss any details needed to move forward, and spend some time praying for these unsaved friends.

1. Have each person think of 2 unsaved friends. Write them down on a piece of paper and commit to pray for their salvation.
2. Go around the room and share with your group the 2 unsaved friends that you wrote down.
3. Decide as a group which unsaved friend you would all like to pursue with either one of the following 3 things:
 - a. **Is there a need? Then fill it.** (*Ex. Yardwork is difficult for a single mom.*)
 - b. **Is there a hurt? Then heal it.** (*Ex. A neighbor's spouse passed away and you make meals for the neighbor for a week*)
 - c. **Is there a common interest? Then do it.** (*Ex. A friend likes board games, so you get together for a game night!*)
4. Start planning the details together as a group and just focus on 1 or 2 unsaved people at a time. Let them see your love that you have as a group and the love Jesus has for them!